

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-00000 Customer No. 22882

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THE ONITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Gary K. Michelson, M.D.

Serial No.: 09/457,228

Filed: December 8, 1999

For: SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE

CONFIGURATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: B. Snow

PECENED

PEC 1 2 2001

DEC 1 2 2001

PECHNOLOGY CENTER B3700

Sir:

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121

In reply to the corrected Restriction Requirement dated October 9, 2001, Applicant elects Group I for examination purposes and provisionally elects claims 57-108, 114-120, and 146-200 drawn to Species 4, Figs. 16-19A for prosecution on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS: APER NO. 7 ANDTA

Please cancel claims 121-130 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Subject to the approval of the Examiner, please amend Fig. 17 and substitute the new formal drawings as requested in the Request for Approval of Drawing Changes and Submission of Formal Drawings filed concurrently herewith.